

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 LONDON 13878 021735Z

43

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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P 021728Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5106

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI PRIORITY

S E C R E T LONDON 13878

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, MCAF, EG, LY

SUBJ: LIBYAN-EGYPTIAN CONFRONTATION

REF: STATE 216856

1. IN CONVERSATION AT FCO AFTERNOON SEPTEMBER 2, FCO
DESK OFFICERS WHO PARTICIPATED IN JIC MEETING ON LIBYAN-
EGYPTIAN CONFRONTATION AUGUST 27 INFORMED EMBOFF THAT
WHILE BRITISH BASICALLY AGREE WITH US ON FACTS OF EGYPTIAN
MILITARY BUILD-UP ON LIBYAN FRONTIER, BRITISH ASSESSMENT
STILL DIFFERS FROM US INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS
REGARDING EGYPTIAN INTENTIONS. WHILE BRITISH ARE INCLINED
TO ACCEPT THEORY THAT SADAT HIMSELF IS UNDER PRESSURE
FROM THE EGYPTIAN ESTABLISHMENT TO "DO SOMETHING ABOUT
QADDHAFI", BRITISH DO NOT BELIEVE SADAT IS SERIOUSLY
CONTEMPLATING A CONVENTIONAL MILITARY INVASION OF LIBYA
AS ONE OF HIS RANGE OF OPTIONS. JIC DOES NOT PLAN TO GIVE
FURTHER FORMAL CONSIDERATION TO THIS ISSUE THIS WEEK.

ARMSTRONG

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Reason:
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